

# ALFA BITS



PUBLISHED CON BRIO BY THE  
ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF OREGON

JUNE 2014





## ALFA BITS

is the official newsletter (and the only one we know of) of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. It is published 10 or 11 times per year in PDF format and is downloadable from the club's website, [www.alfaclub.org](http://www.alfaclub.org).

We welcome submission of topical editorial material, and non-commercial buy-sell-trade Alfa-related ads are free for members. Contact [the editor](#) for details, or better yet, just send your ad and we'll let you know if there's a problem. We're really flexible.

We also welcome paid advertising when you actually pay (and you know who you are...). Contact Advertising Manager [Dennis Torgeson](#) for details and/or to repent and pay up.

If every AROO member receiving this e-zine forwarded it to just five friends, and if that pattern could continue through just eight such iterations, by the end of the week this could be the largest-circulation publication in history. And then just think what we could charge for advertising...

## ABOUT THE CLUB

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The ALFA BITS Scoopcam caught this disguised 4C at a gas station in Hood River a couple of weeks ago. Apparently Alfa is logging some miles to work out the kinks, and John Arcsott (pictured) was also there to help out it. *Photo by Mark Carpenter.*

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"All the veloce  
that's fit to print"

I was recently organizing some old files and boxes of stuff that hadn't yet been unpacked from the last move. That move was in 2006, and going through the box of old dash plaques and car club mementos just hadn't seemed urgent.

I was enjoying some smiles as I sorted through some items that I hadn't even remembered until seeing them again, and then going through a stack of dash plaques I came across this one:



As you see, it dates from 1975, and perhaps you recognize the date format as that used by the government. I was in Uncle Sugar's Army in those days, but I found time to get active with my local chapter of the Sports Car Club of America, the "Wiregrass Region." That's in LA (Lower Alabama).

I was the happy owner of a new 1974 Alfa Spider at the time, and cleaning up in class DS in Solo II (autocross) events. I drove that Alfa like I'd stolen it, even though it was my only car.

Anyway, our club also held a few rallies, and I wrote one soon after joining. It was my first time as rally master, and I don't remember a lot about it except for doing a trial run at night with Bob Veatch.

Of course this was in the days before scanners and personal computers and such, and I think I got the graphic of the car from the owner's handbook, and SCCA logo - for the wheels - from a membership application, sending photocopies to the plaque-maker. My silver Alfa had the "ALFA ROMEO" side stripes, so I substituted the club name, WIREGRASS, on the dash plaque, named the event after a Beatles song (they had broken up only a few years before), and I dutifully spelled rally the French way (sorry, at the time I didn't know any better).

So why am I recounting this here? I suppose in part because it makes me smile, and maybe partly because there's an Alfa on the dash plaque, and maybe because of the way it made me feel to see that plaque again after nearly 40 years. And the way it made me feel was to resolve to drive fun cars and make more happy memories sooner rather than later. This club provides lots of great opportunities to do just that.

You take it from there.

*Reid Trummel, Editor*



### **Summertime...**

Summer. The word just lowers your pulse and makes you smile, thinking back to summer vacation, family trips. The beach. The pool. Suntan lotion. Cruising with your friends. Top down. Soft air. Mmmmm.

And you can get back to that. The calendar says it's not quite summer, but summer is about how it feels, not about rules. So let's see what's in store this summer.

### **...and the living' is easy.**

Upcoming is your last chance to tune up the team and the car for the Monte by jumping on the last installment of the AROO Cup Rally Series, Sunday, June 15, at the recently renamed French Prairie Rest Area on I-5 south. Registration at 9, start at 10:01. \$20. Done by lunch. Take the rest of the day off.

If that's too up-tempo for you, join us for the AROO Summer Evening Tour in place of the regular membership meeting on June 18. Meet at 5:45 p.m. at the Sylvan Zoo House (formerly Sylvan Steak House, formerly Big Red's, formerly who knows what?). Depart at 6 for a 1 1/2 hour tour on classic Washington County back roads, ending at The Rock for wood-fired pizza with your friends.

### **Your daddy's rich and your ma is good lookin...**

No need to be rich to show up at the Portland Historics July 11-13, 'cause you bought your discount ticket package and are gonna hang out at the car corral, cruise the open paddock and watch the vintage races. Bring the sunscreen!

### **Got your hair slicked back. Wayfarers on, baby.**

(Jumped a few decades for that one, huh?) In July we have the Summer Picnic, another classic AROO event. Meet at Longbottom Coffeehouse in Hillsboro, July 19, at 10 a.m. Organized by Russ Paine, so it's bound to be a fine time.

Nothing says summer like the Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Rally. Drive it. Tour it. Sponsor or volunteer or all the above. At the very least, show up at the start at 8 a.m. July 25 at 16th and Alder to watch the start of one of the country's premier classic car driving events.

### **You got that top pulled down, radio on, baby**

In place of the August meeting we'll have another evening tour, but heck, that's a long time from now, and besides it's summer so details will have to wait.

The AROO summer winds up August 22-24 with the AROO Summer Tour. Tom McGirr will lead us through eastern Oregon, with great roads, great meals and stops of historic interest. 'Cause maybe you still need to write that "What I did on My Summer Vacation" essay and it would be good to have something educational to toss in.

[Roger Dilts, Club President](#)



Location: Buster's BBQ.

In Attendance: Roger, Lee Anne, Reid, Dennis, Russ, Yulia, Mark.

Time: 7 p.m.

Old Business, Upcoming events, and Liaison reports 7:00 – 8:00

1. Minutes review – Russ. Roger moved to approve, Dennis – seconded. Approved.
2. Treasurer's Report - Cindy Banzer (absent, see email) Reviewed.
3. Past events reports:
  - a. April 6 AROO Cup Rally #2 – Reid – 14 cars, went well, Viewpoint Lounge great!
  - b. April 26-27 Old Spider Tour – Erik/ Dennis – 20 cars, great weather.
  - c. May 4 AROO Cup Rally #3 – Roger – 10 cars, solid event.
4. Upcoming events
  - a. May membership meeting – Mark Whittington, PIR Manager (retiring) is guest speaker
  - b. June 13-15 Rose Cup Races.
  - c. June 15 AROO Cup Rally #4 – Rally Master Paul Eklund.
  - d. June 18 Summer Evening Tour – Roger leads.
5. Reid's report: Bits, website and MSNCR – 101 paid, 120 reg. 33 in Tour group.
6. Calendar Review – Bob (absent).
7. Membership Report - Lee Anne.
8. Merchandise/Apparel –Yulia – Polo shirts stocked.
9. Competition and track – Mark – Booth at SOVERN event on Labor Day.
10. Advertising/Promotion – George.
11. AROC report – Cindy (absent).

Continuing and New Business 8:00 – 9:00

1. Anything? – Discussed letter to AROC Board to ask for a spot on Annual Meeting agenda regarding concern of AROO and the current administration and officer set on National Board. Mark C. to draft a letter.

Adjourned 8:11 p.m.

[Submitted by Russ Paine, Secretary](#)

Reid, as you know, Darci and I have been in Italy a little over 10 months now. In the evenings we have noticed that Italian TV is loaded with old US reruns, one of which seems very popular is "Dukes of Hazard" - yes, you heard me, the Dukes of Hazard.

Anyway, the Orvieto Fiat Club had a car show about a block from our apartment with about 100 entries. Who knew, but up pops the "General Lee", Fiat 500 style. There were actually two at the show, but I did not get a picture of the second one.

Also enclosed are a couple more Fiat photos you might enjoy.

Ciao,  
John





June 15, AROO Cup Rally #4 

REMEMBER THE NEW STARTING LOCATION: French Prairie Southbound Rest Area.

June 18, Evening Tour 

This tour replaces the regular monthly meeting.

June 22, Italian Concours d'Elegance

Seems to be a new event. If you go, take a few pics and write a few paragraphs to tell us about it.

July 11-13, Portland Historic Races

You know the drill. If not, Google is your friend.

July 19, AROO Summer Picnic 

This year it's the day before the Forest Grove Concours, so you can do both.

July 20, Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance

The theme this year is "The Art of Italian Motoring."

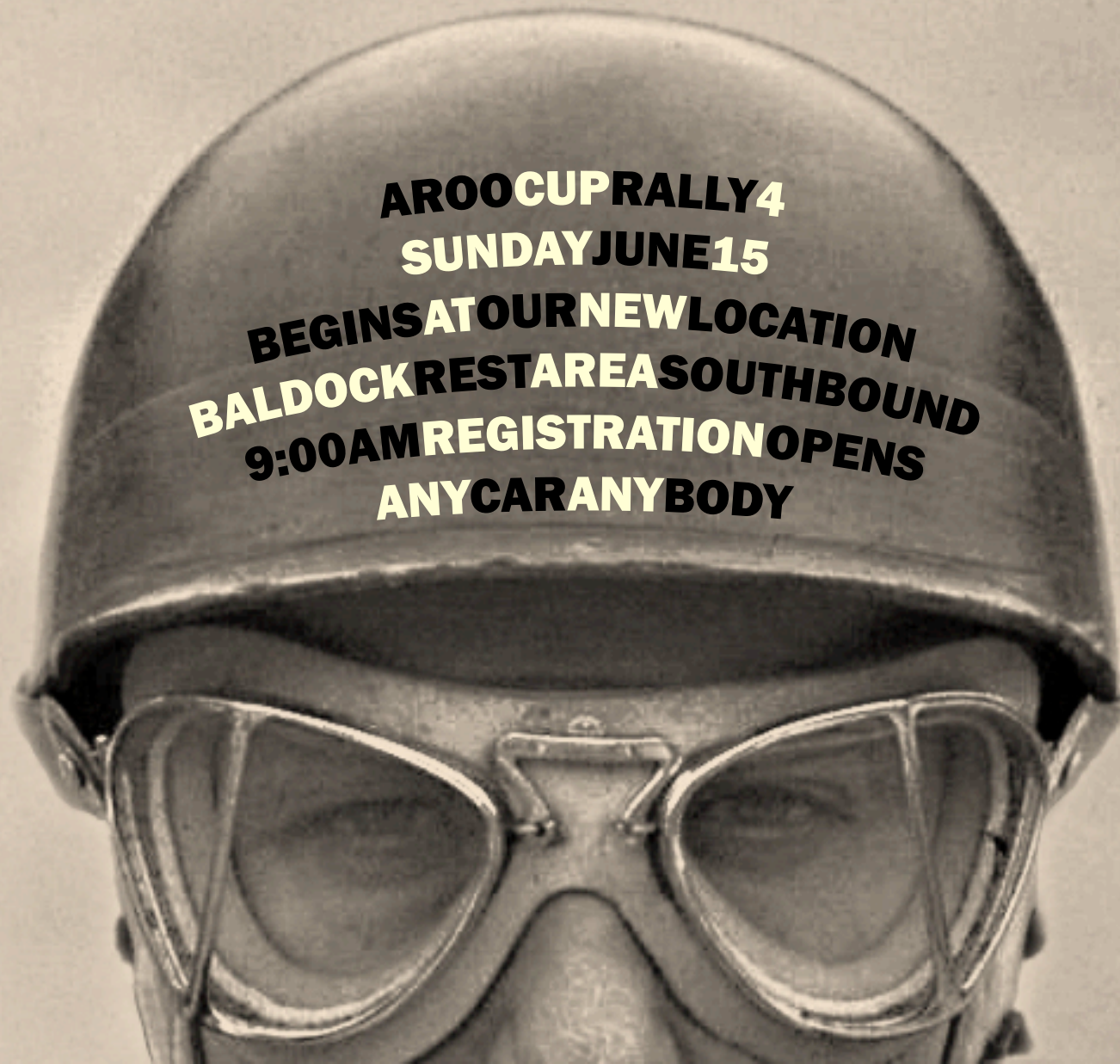
July 24-27, Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Rally 

26th annual. Sold out, but as an AROO member if you still want to register, we'll get you in. We're going back to Salishan this year. It's looking like the biggest ever. More sponsors than ever. More volunteers than ever. *This party is on!*

VIEW THE ENTIRE [ACTIVITIES CALENDAR](#) ON OUR WEBSITE



Don't miss this final opportunity in 2014 to experience [all the fun](#) of an AROO Cup rally!



**AROOCUPRALLY4**  
**SUNDAYJUNE15**  
**BEGINSATOURNEWLOCATION**  
**BALDOCKRESTAREASOUTHBOUND**  
**9:00AMREGISTRATIONOPENS**  
**ANYCARANYBODY**



In the summer months we replace the monthly meetings with evening tours, ending at locations suitable for partaking of nourishment and slaking one's thirst.

June is the first of this series and this month we will begin by meeting at 5:45 p.m. at:

**[Sylvan Zoo House](#)**

5515 SW Canyon Ct  
Portland 97221

The tour lasts approximately 90 minutes.  
Driving your Alfa is encouraged, but not required.

We'll end at:

**[The Rock Wood Fired Pizza & Spirits](#)**

2295 NW Allie Ave  
Hillsboro in The Streets of Tanasbourne

Wednesday, June 18

Drive your Alfa. It will like it and so will you.





ITALIAN CONCOURS

*d' Elegance*



JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> 2014  
CARILLON POINT, KIRKLAND

Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014  
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

ITALIAN CONCOURS

*d' Elegance*



Carillon Point, Kirkland  
Washington

— Celebrating 100 YEARS of Maserati —

Please join us for a day-long celebration of Italian design, engineering and style.



Vehicles displayed will include Ferrari, Lamborghini, Alfa Romeo, Ducati, Vespa, and many others.

Spectators \$5 | Motorcycles \$20 | Entry fee \$30/ car (pre-registration) | Entry fee \$40/ car (day-of registration)

For more information or to register contact, William Smallwood III at 425-773-0130 | ItalianConcours@gmail.com

But join us for ballet practice at the AROO Summer Picnic. See the next page for details.



We will meet at [Longbottom Coffeehouse](#) (great coffee and snacks, even a late breakfast) at 4893 NW 235th Avenue, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124 at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 19th, and depart from there by 10:30 a.m.

Longbottom is off of Hwy 26 in Hillsboro at the Brookwood exit, then first left onto Huffman Road, and the Longbottom is around first corner on the right.

We will be driving Washington County roads into Yamhill County for an hour and fifteen or so, and should arrive at [Alexana Winery](#), our first destination, by about 11:45 pm. (You can meet us there if you want to skip this part of the tour.)

Our second destination is [Tertulia Cellars](#) where we'll arrive about 1:15 p.m. We'll enjoy our catered lunch at Tertulia Cellars. (You can meet us there if you want to skip the entire tour.) Catering will be by Babica Hen Cafe.

***Please see [Boxed Lunches menu below and place orders with me, Russ, by July 5.](#)***

## LUNCH



### BOXED LUNCHES

**sandwiches** | greek chicken  
turkey bacon avocado  
turkey ham garden club  
chicken sundried tomato  
tuna salad

OR

**salads** | chicken berry balsamic  
squash and beet farro  
ranch chicken chopped  
greek chicken

**bread choices** | ciabatta  
focaccia  
french baquette  
whole wheat

**includes** | assorted potato chips  
freshly baked bh cookie  
bottled soda pop or water

**price** | \$13/person

#### TO ORDER BOXED LUNCHES

**call** | 503.538.7970

**email** | [scott@babicahen.com](mailto:scott@babicahen.com)

We will enjoy a combined lunch and wine tasting with lunch in the large garden area, so please bring blankets and/or folding chairs. There is some limited seating in the tasting room as well.

Tertulia is offering a 10% discount on wine purchases. Water and soda are available from Babica Hen to go along with lunch.

~ [Russ Paine](#), your AROO Summer Picnic Coordinator

Hi Reid, Roger:

I want to extend an invitation to AROO members to participate in the Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance on July 20th. Our theme is "The Art Italian Motoring," and we have established classes for pre-war and post-war Italian touring and competition cars. We have established a class for Alfa Romeo automobiles, and cars can be entered for judging or display-only. We would love to see participation from AROO members – we anticipate a wonderful field of Italian automobiles.

Jon Shirley has entered his Alfa-Romeo 8C 2900. Blackhawk Museum is entering a 1962 Ferrari Superamerica and a 1952 Lancia Vignale. Keith Martin and Donald Osborne are the event emcees. Glenn Mounger, former Pebble Beach Chairman, is our senior judge. See the attached flyer for event details.

Classes for Italian automobiles are:

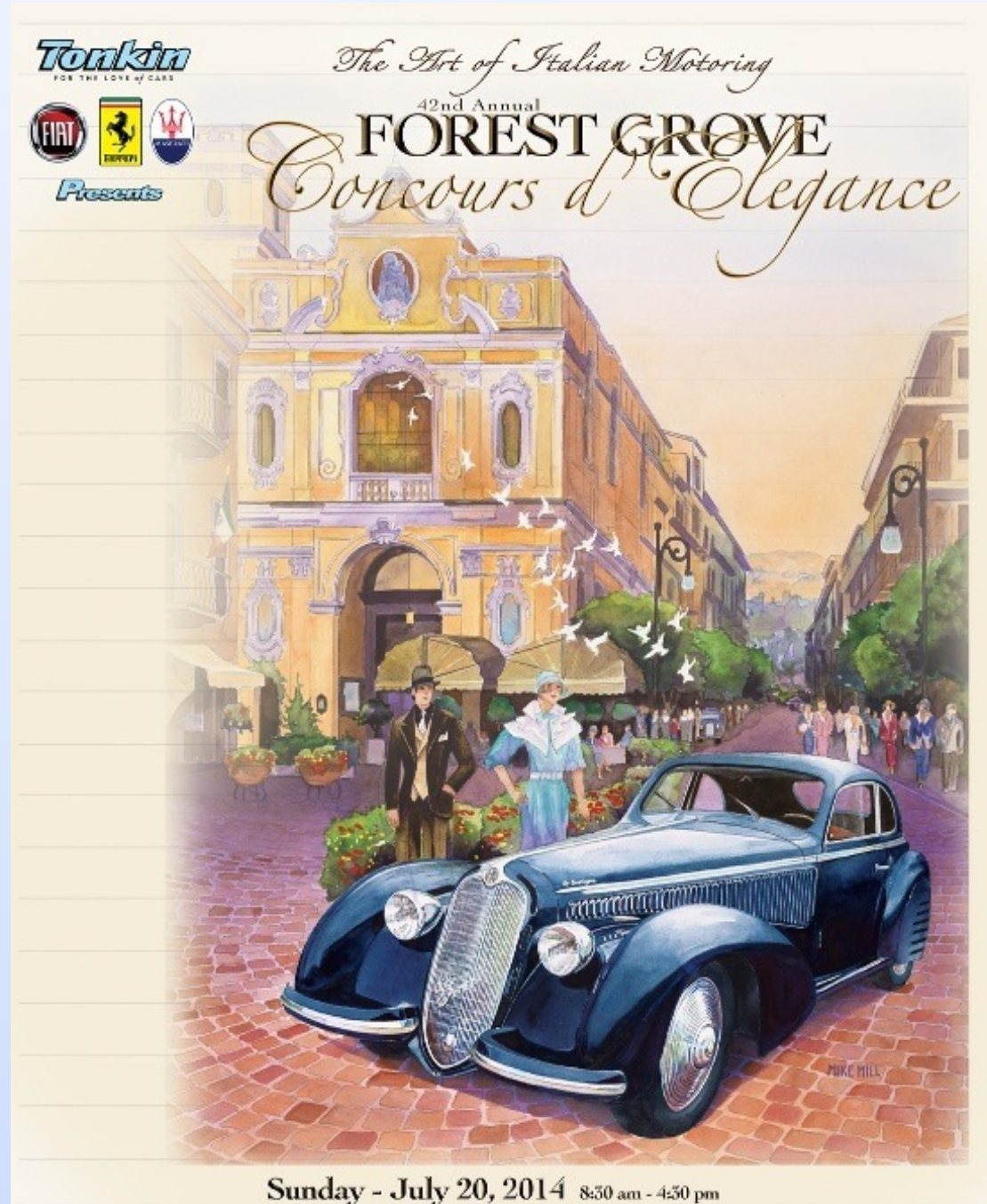
- Class F1: Pre War Coach Built Italian Cars
- Class F2: Pre War Italian Competition Cars
- Class F3: Post War Italian Sports & Touring Cars through 1980
- Class Q3: Alfa-Romeo through 1979 (we can be flexible on the 1979 cut-off date).

Automobiles can be entered at our [website](#). There is no entry fee for the Sunday Concours. The Saturday Tour is \$75 per car.

Let me know what questions you have and if I can assist in any way.

Regards,

[Allen Stephens Jr.](#)  
Steering Committee  
Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance  
(503) 708-0397



## Why a 3-day tour?

- 1) We have driven nearly every road within a weekend's drive.
- 2) Three days lets us explore new territory.
- 3) We have time to actually stop and SEE stuff!
- 4) It is like a mini-vacation.
- 5) We get to drive our Alfas three days in a row.

Time to schedule that Friday off (or come down with a sudden "illness" known as AlfaRomeoitus, a very serious condition!).  
This three-day tour starts Friday, August 22, and ends Sunday afternoon.

Friday we wind our way through some nice country roads in Washington, stopping for lunch at the old Blue Bird Tavern in Bickelton.

Our first night's destination is Pendleton. Lodging is at Knights Inn (541) 276-3231. Our group rate is only \$45!

(No, you do not need to bring baseball bats to kill the roaches...this place has great reviews).

Dinner will be at Virgil's At Cimmiyotti's, where some of the best steaks in the Pacific Northwest are served!

If you can't spring loose for the day, consider driving up to Pendleton Friday evening to join us Saturday morning,  
or catch up at noon on Saturday for the rest of the tour.

Saturday morning we will start off as tourists and what better way to learn about the Wild West than by taking the Pendleton Underground Tour.

Pendleton had a very active underground community in the mid-to-late 1880's and much has been preserved.

Run by a non-profit organization, you truly feel as if you are walking back in time. The tour ends inside the Working Girls Hotel,  
one of 18 bordellos that "served" the cowboys and miners of the time. It is a hoot!

### [Pendleton Underground Tours](#)

Next we will visit the Umatilla County Historical Museum. Housed in a 1909 train depot, they have assembled an outstanding collection.

In addition, an 1879 one-room school and homestead have been relocated onto the grounds.

### [Heritage Station Museum](#)

The final stop before we head to Condon is the Tamastlikt Cultural Institute. This museum celebrates the history of the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes. They have done a wonderful job in collecting and displaying many artifacts. I have visited here before and look forward to seeing it again.

### [Tamastlikt Cultural Institute](#)

After lunch, we will take a non-direct, lots-of-fun, three-hour drive to Hotel Condon. Despite being a short drive,  
it is guaranteed to make you smile so make sure things are buckled down! Many of us have stayed at the Condon Hotel before.

Check out their website if you have not been there. [Hotel Condon](#) Be sure to click the "events" tab to see a  
great picture of our Alfa's parked in front of the hotel. Rob, the manager, has enticed his lady friend, Rachael,  
to move to Condon to run their restaurant, which does special dinners for groups. The proposed menu, including appetizers, is mouth watering!

The room block will expire around July 1, hence I recommend calling them to secure a room. After these 20 rooms are gone,  
the only alternate is the Condon Motel (you might want to bring the baseball bat to address those pesky roaches!).

I negotiated a very special CHEAP RATE at the Condon...\$125 for the luxury rooms (normally \$229)  
and the balance of the rooms are \$100 (normally \$169-189!).

*Dinner will only be \$30/person.* We can bring our own wine. Hotel Condon's phone number: 800-201-6706.

This tour will have something for everyone. A few new roads, some great old roads, superb food, nice views, and some cultural history to boot.

**ROOM BLOCKS EXPIRE SOON SO GET YOUR CELL PHONE OUT AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS!**

Let me (Tom McGirr) know you are coming so I can coordinate with the vendors. [mcgirrt@columbiabank.com](mailto:mcgirrt@columbiabank.com) or (503) 983-3656.

## Fall Colors Tour

It's not too early to put this on your calendar and make your motel reservation.

The trip will depart from Estacada and follow the North Clackamas River which traditionally has a very impressive fall leaf show about this time of year.

We will wind our way around the Cascade Mountains eventually ending up in Bend.

Lodging is at the Double Tree (old Phoenix Hotel) in downtown Bend.

Be sure to mention the Alfa Romeo club when making your reservations.

Dinner is tentatively planned at a little Italian place, the owners of which are Alfa fans.

As always, let Tom McGirr know you are coming. [mcgirrt@columbiabank.com](mailto:mcgirrt@columbiabank.com) or (503) 983-3656.





The ALFA BITS Scoopcam was on hand in Hood River a couple of weeks ago when Mark Carpenter and John Arscott had stopped for fuel and this disguised 4C arrived. Or maybe the new 4C just has really bad paint that doesn't hold up well.

In any case, they were trailering Mark's race car to Spokane at the time. Thinking fast, Mark snapped the two photos below of his race car.

(Note to Mark: We already have lots of photos of your race car on file. Next time a 4C shows up, could you please get it all in the frame?)

Either way, it's an ALFA BITS exclusive! The identity of the person in the photo at left has been concealed to protect the ALFA BITS Scoopcam crew identity.





- Alfa Romeo dealer network established in U.S. and Canada.
- Initial pool of 86 dealers drawn from existing FIAT and Maserati brand dealers.
- Additional Alfa Romeo franchises to be awarded later this year.

June 10, 2014 , Auburn Hills, Mich. - An initial group of 86 dealers have been awarded Alfa Romeo franchises in the United States and Canada. In the U.S., 82 Alfa Romeo dealers are located in 33 states, with California, Texas, and Florida having the largest concentration of dealerships. There are four Alfa Romeo dealers in Canada in this first group.

These 86 dealers will be the first to sell the all-new 2015 Alfa Romeo 4C coupe and limited-edition 4C Launch Edition when the iconic Italian sports car brand returns to the North American market this year.

“This group of dealers represents the first phase in the Alfa Romeo dealer network selection process,” said Peter Grady, Vice President of Network Development, Chrysler Group LLC. “Each Alfa Romeo dealer will have a unique staff dedicated to the brand’s premium market clientele. We require each Alfa Romeo dealer to have their sales and technical staff go through an intensive curriculum to ensure the highest levels of customer care and proficiency of the Alfa Romeo 4C. We anticipate that the Alfa Romeo dealer network ultimately will exceed 300 franchises in North America.”

Additional Alfa Romeo franchises will be awarded this year. Initially, each franchise will receive the highly-anticipated Alfa Romeo 4C Launch Edition. Here are the dealers by state (Editor’s note: We’re listing only those in the western states; there are none yet in Oregon) that have been awarded an Alfa Romeo franchise in the U.S.:

#### California

FIAT of Burlingame, dba Alfa Romeo of Burlingame, Burlingame, Calif.  
 FIAT of Bakersfield, dba Alfa Romeo of Bakersfield, Bakersfield, Calif.  
 McKevitt FIAT, dba McKevitt Alfa Romeo, Berkeley, Calif.  
 Premier FIAT of Fremont, dba Premier Alfa Romeo of Fremont, Newark, Calif.  
 Orange Coast FIAT, dba Orange Coast Alfa Romeo, Costa Mesa, Calif.  
 Santa Monica FIAT, dba Santa Monica Alfa Romeo, Santa Monica, Calif.  
 FIAT of Los Angeles, dba Alfa Romeo of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, Calif.  
 Kearny Mesa FIAT, dba Kearny Mesa Alfa Romeo, San Diego, Calif.  
 Walter’s FIAT, dba Walter’s Alfa Romeo, Riverside, Calif.  
 Mossy FIAT, dba Mossy Alfa Romeo, National City, Calif.  
 FIAT of San Francisco, dba Alfa Romeo of San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif.  
 Maserati of Walnut Creek, dba Alfa Romeo of Walnut Creek, Walnut Creek, Calif.

#### Washington

FIAT of Tacoma, dba Alfa Romeo of Tacoma, Tacoma, Wash.  
 Barton FIAT, dba Barton Alfa Romeo, Spokane, Wash.

#### Nevada

FIAT of Las Vegas, dba Alfa Romeo of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nev.  
 Findlay FIAT, dba Findlay Alfa Romeo, Henderson, Nev.

#### Arizona

Larry H. Miller FIAT Tucson, dba Larry H. Miller Alfa Romeo Tucson, Tucson, Ariz.  
 FIAT of Scottsdale, dba Alfa Romeo of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, Ariz.



These are the next two pages of the same sales brochure that we featured last month. Lots of “white space” was obviously a favored element in graphic design at the time. The text from the right hand page, presumably composed by someone for whom English was not the first language, is enlarged below for better readability.

**The interior arrangement of the Giulietta Spider** is an appealing composition of sober elegance.

An upholstered shade protects the control panel against possible reflections. All control instruments are grouped on three dials which can be consulted at one glance.

In the center is the revolution indicator, essential to the performance of the car.

The gear stick on the floor directly on the gear box insures precise transmission. The roof of the Giulietta Spider and of the Spider Veloce, folds back behind the seats where space is provided for the spare tire. When closed, this car has the tightness of an all-weather convertible. For the winter season, the Giulietta Spider can be transformed into a sleek looking coupé by the adjunction of an optional plastic hard top.



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This is quite an interesting clip. It features five-time World Racing Champion (1951, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957) Juan Manuel Fangio in a W196 Mercedes Benz in a four-lap demonstration race against three-time champion (1959, 1960, 1966) Jack Brabham in a Repco Brabham. It was conducted in 1978 after the Australian Grand Prix at Sandown. Fangio was 66 years old at the time. Brabham was 52.

As a mix of cars and drivers from different eras - although their racing years did overlap - it is a virtual fantasy race. By the way, Sir Jack Brabham passed away less than one month ago.

Click on the image at left and let the fantasy begin.



Here are your options:

**AROO Cup Rally #4**

**Evening Tour**

**Italian Concours d'Elegance**

**AROO Summer Picnic**

**Forest Grove Concours**

**Northwest Classic Rally**

**AROO Summer Tour**

**AROO Fall Colors Tour**

**You know how to play AROO  
chess or not?**



Sm-L-30.

Please consider our rally sponsors and advertisers when you need the goods and services they provide.

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Ron Tonkin Gran Turismo is proud to support all Alfa Romeo Owners and enthusiasts by providing outstanding service and quality parts to help maintain and preserve your special Alfa Romeo.

Ron Tonkin along with several employees at Ron Tonkin Gran Turismo own Alfa Romeos and know just how special these automobiles are.

Our ASE certified technicians are experts in the care and servicing needs of all sports and exotic automobiles. Further, we are honored to have Terry Graham, one of the few Ferrari Master Technicians in the world on our staff.

We always have a fine selection of new and pre-owned exotic, sports and luxury automobiles available including Alfa Romeos, Ferraris and Maseratis.



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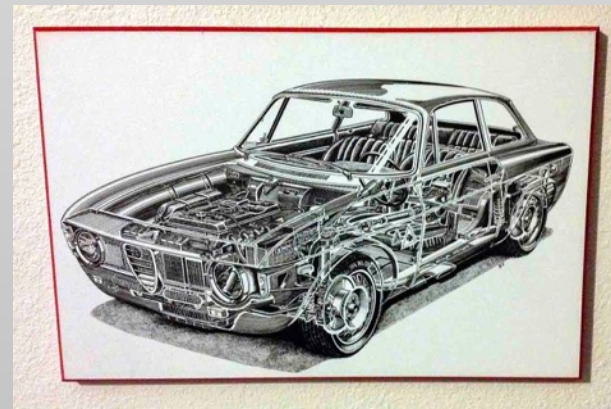
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